



**TESTIMONY  
BRIAN PHINNEY  
PRESIDENT  
CT PLUMBING, HEATING & COOLING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION  
BEFORE THE  
GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 26, 2008**

The Connecticut Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors Association (CT-PHCC) **supports SB-271, An Act Concerning Advertising by Occupational License Holders.**

This bill addresses concerns that consumers have faced regarding individuals or companies who advertise in the yellow pages or other publications as a plumber or other trade but who are not licensed for that trade by the State of Connecticut. To address this problem, several states have already enacted laws which explicitly state that it is a misdemeanor for any person to advertise as a tradesperson unless that person holds a valid license for that trade.

We therefore fully support SB-271 with revisions to reflect the language unanimously approved by the Senate last year:

Section 1. Section 20-334 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2008*):

(a) No person shall engage in, practice or offer to perform the work of any occupation subject to this chapter in this state unless such person has first obtained a license as provided in section 20-333, or possesses a card of registration from the Labor Department or the board and is subject to all of the regulations adopted under this chapter for the purpose of governing apprenticeship training, or has been issued a license for such particular work under this chapter prior to July 6, 1967.

(b) The Department of Consumer Protection shall furnish to each qualified applicant a license certifying that the holder thereof is entitled to engage in the work or occupation for which the person has been issued a license under this chapter, and the holder of such license shall carry it on his person while engaging in such work or occupation. Such license shall be shown to any properly interested person on request. No such license shall be transferred to or used by any person other than the person to whom the license was issued. No person shall advertise in this state to perform the work of an occupation subject to licensure by this chapter unless such person is licensed to perform such work pursuant to section 20-333, or has been issued a license for such work under this chapter prior to July 6, 1967. Contractors shall display their state license number on all commercial vehicles used in their business and shall display such number in a conspicuous manner on all printed advertisements, including, but not limited to, telephone book and yellow page listings and Internet solicitations for services, and on all bid proposals, contracts, invoices and [on all] stationery used in their business. Contractors shall disclose their state license number in all television or radio advertisements in this state made by or on behalf of such contractors. The department shall keep a register